

Mr. President: The point is this. When we have got an engine and when that engine works cheaper than the electricity and when electricity is also not available, why not we use that engine? This certainly requires explanation. The engine is cheaper than the electricity. Sufficient current is not available. Commonsense shows that you must work the engine.

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon (Chief Engineer): It was not available, and we have been working the engine only for the last 7 months.

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar (Cheruthuruthi): In 1115 they were working only the engine.

Mr. V. J. Mathai (Planters): May I know whether there is a separate staff maintained for this?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon (Chief Engineer): Yes, there is a driver. The whole question centres round the rate for the electricity for a continuous load. As for any water pumping installation the charge of one anna per unit is really much higher than what is necessary for running an oil engine.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni (Trichur-South): May I know whether the charge, one anna is made with a view to show that the Electric Department is running the work at a profit?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon (Chief Engineer): It is according to the rules of the license.

Mr. A. B. Salem (Mattancheri): What is the advantage of resorting to the other system and giving up the electrically worked pump?

Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar (Cheruthuruthi): Is not the Government aware that the Municipality is considering through a Committee the various aspects of the question?

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar (Secretary to Government): Yes.

Mr. C. R. Iyyunni (Trichur-South): May I know when that Committee was formed?

Mr. President: That is a municipal affair. The question is evidently engaging the attention of the Municipality.

MAHARAJA'S COLLEGE ADVISORY COMMITTEE—MEETINGS HELD IN 1114 AND 1115

346. Mr. L. M. Pylee (Latin Christians-Ernakulam): Will the Government be pleased to state how many meetings of the Maharaja's College Advisory Committee were held.—

(a) during the year 1114, and

(b) during the year 1115?

Mr. P. J. George (*Joint Secretary to Government*):

(a) Two.

(b) Nil.

Mr. L. M. Pylee (*Latin Christians-Ernakulam*): There has been no meeting in 1115. Why was there no meeting? There is a rule that there should be at least one meeting in each term of the academic year. Why was no meeting held?

Mr. P. J. George (*Joint Secretary to Government*): It should ordinarily meet thrice a year. That is all. Perhaps they might not have found the necessity for more meetings. It appears that there was no necessity for any more meetings. I have no further information about this.

Mr. A. B. Salem (*Mattancheri*): May I know the object of the Advisory Committee? What is the main purpose of this Advisory Committee?

Mr. President: To advise on various matters.

Mr. A. B. Salem (*Mattancheri*): In regard to admission or any other purpose?

VISWAKARMALAS—EDUCATIONAL CONCESSIONS—SCOPE OF

347. Mr. V. N. Damodaran Nambiar (*Trippunittura*): Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(a) whether the Viswakarmalas in the State have been granted any educational concessions; if so, what are they;

(b) are the Kollans in the State members of the Viswakarmala community;

(c) have the Perum-Kollans in Eroor desam in Nadamel village put in a petition complaining about the refusal of the concessions by the management of the St. Joseph's Malayalam Primary School, Kodamkulangara;

(d) if so, what action have the Government taken in the matter?

Mr. P. J. George (*Joint Secretary to Government*):

(a) Yes.